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INSCRIPTIONS ON THE MONUMENTS IN THE CHURCH-YARD OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN'S, BERKLEY.

(Contributed by Henry A. M. Smith.)

The Parish Church of the Parish of St. John's, Berkley, commonly called Biggin Church, is situated at the head of Cooper river between Biggin (or Biggon) creek and Wadboo creek. It stands on the rise of the hill as the public road leaves Biggin swamp on the way to the bridge across Wadboo creek.

The parish was created by the Church Act of 1706. By deed dated 5th Decr., 1712, Landgrave John Colleton gave three acres of land "being upon Tipicop Haw Hill in the "Barony of Watboo belonging to the said John Colleton, "the said three acres of land being for the scite of the said "Parish Church of St. John and to be a cemetery or church-"yard."[1]

Dalcho states that the church was begun in 1710 and finished in the following year.[2] If so, the gift of the land must have preceded the date of the deed.

The word Tipicop Haw is frequently written and called Tippy-cut-law. The church building was destroyed by fire in 1755[3] but was rebuilt, and in 1763 was a brick church 60 feet by 40 in the clear.[4] The parish was an extended one, with a well-to-do population, and had at one time two chapels of ease appendant to the Parish Church, viz: one at Strawberry ferry (or Childsbury) and the other near the 45-mile house on the public road.

During the revolutionary war Biggin Church, being a strong brick building, was fortified by the British and used as a depot for supplies and munitions for the army. In July 1781, Col. Coates, the British commander, finding it nec-

[1]M. C. O. Charleston Bk B. 3 p. 611.
[2]Dalcho, p. 265.
[3]Ibid, p. 270.
[4]Ibid. p. 271.

essary to abandon the post and retreat towards Charleston, gathered all his stores into the church and set fire to them and to the building,[5] which was very badly injured by the fire. After the close of the war the church was repaired and incorporated[6] by the name of "The Vestry and Churchwardens of "the Episcopal Church of St. John's, Berkley County." The church was used as a place of divine worship until the Civil War, and escaped the general destruction meted out by the Federal commands, to structures in the low country of South Carolina, whether secular or sacred. While the physical structure survived, the result of the social, economical and political destruction of the Civil War was that the congregation of worshippers were dispersed and pauperized, and after the close of the War the building was but very occasionally used for the purposes of Divine worship. It gradually fell into decay and the roof fell in. Whilst in that condition it took fire, supposedly from forest fires in the vicinity, and all the woodwork was destroyed. To meet urgent needs of the parish it was attempted to sell the old bricks, and a portion of the walls were taken down for that purpose, but so firm and binding was the old mortar in which they were set, that the cost of cleaning the bricks was found to be too great and the attempt was abandoned.

In March, 1899, the western and southern walls were standing to the height of about 14 or 15 feet from the ground. The northern and eastern walls were gone. On a visit to the church and cemetery in March, 1899, a copy was made of the inscriptions on the old stones, and the following is given as the result.

The graveyard was in parts quite grown up and the writer cannot say either that the inscriptions here given cover all in the church-yard or that they are given as exactly correct. The time afforded was too short for certainty on these points. Further the formal dedication, viz: the words "Sacred to the memory of," or "The memory of," or "Here lies, etc," are omitted, as are likewise

[5]McCrady, Vol. 4., p. 332.
[6]Dalcho, p. 272.

frequently the memorial verses, the scriptural quotations, and the extended tributes of piety or affection. All that was taken down, in most cases, were the bare facts—names and dates, etc.

In the churchyard, to the north of the church, were the ruins of apparently two large underground vaults, undesignated by any name, and of a smaller one which was open and empty, save for a few bones. One of the larger vaults appeared to be walled with the marl that comes to the surface along Wadboo creek and of which the old Colleton Wadboo house had its foundations made.

To the Memory
of
Sir John Colleton Bart:
of
Devonshire in England and of
Fairlawn in South Carolina whose
mortal remains rest here in hopes of
a Blessed Resurrection
Descended from Sir John Colleton
formerly Proprietor of this State he
lived to witness the Independence
of the United States
and Died at Fairlawn
This stone is erected in respect
to his Memory as a mark of her
affection by his only Daughter
Louisa Carolina Graves

Josiah Rhodes who died
Jany 7th 1812 aged 29 years
& 10 months

You living men as you pass by
As you are so once was I
And as I am soon will you be
Prepare for death and follow me

M^{rs} Susanah Curtis |
Who departed this life | the 3^{d}
of January 1818 | aged 17 years
and 11 months
(below)
Susanah Jane Curtis

Maria Sarah beloved wife of |
Tho^{s} P. Chandler | Born 7th
Feby 1819 | Died 19th Feby 1851 |
Aged 31 years and 12 days |
(below on same stone)
Here also lies three children | of
T. P. and M. S. Chandler |
Geraldine aged 3 years 7 days |
John Thomas aged 2 Mos 12 days |
and an infant son | aged 2 months
and 4 days |

Martha Elizabeth | consort
of William Oscar | Gibson | who de-
parted this life on the | 22nd of November
1842 | aged 20 years and 1 day |
also their daughter | Josephine
Alice | who was born on the | 3^{d} of
October 1842 | and departed this life
on the | 22nd August 1843.

James Lowry | who de-
parted this Life | Nov^{r} 4th 1799 |
Aged 32 years & 6 months.

Thomas Doyle | a native
of Carlow | in Ireland | who de-
parted this life | on the 23^{d} of
March 1819 | Aged 54 years

Thom: Donovan | a na-
tive of Ireland | who departed
this | Life at Fairlawn | Planta-
tion on the | 14th of Aug 1820

Edward Lucas Ford | Son
of J. D. and Ellen Ford | who
died at Cordesville | June the 19th
1862 | aged 13 months & 2 days.

M^{rs} Mary L. Cordes | who
was born 2nd November 1794 | and
died 12th February 1871

D^{r}. Samuel Cordes | who died
at his residence on | North Santee
May 19th, 1858 | in the 68th year of
his age |
"He died as he lived | an honest man."

Lavinia daughter of | Dr Samuel
and Mary L. Cordes | of St. James
Parish | who died in Charleston |
on the 21 Sept: 1839 | aged 14
years and 2 months

The children of Samuel
and Mary L. Cordes

Samuel Warren	ob: 9 Novr 1832	aged	4 years
Philip G. Prioleau	" 1 Jany 1817	"	10 days
Philip G. Prioleau	" 26 Aug 1818	"	6 months
Samuella	" 18 Nov 1820	"	8 "
Robert F. Withers	" 29 Jany 1822	"	1 year & 2 mos.
Elizabeth Susan	" 21 Novr 1823	"	7 days

Mrs Charlotte Cordes | consort
of the late | Thomas Cordes | of St:
Stephens Parish | who died 5th of
July 1826 | aged 57 years | and 8 months

Thomas Cordes | of St Stephens
Parish | who died the 10th day of
August 1806 | aged 53 years

Miss Mary Davis | who
was born | in the year 1749 |
and died April 16th 1818

[Coat of Arms]
To the memory of |
Francis Cordes
son of |
Samuel and Elizabeth Cordes |
who was born on the 17 June |
1772 and departed this |
Life on the 23rd of February | 1855

Samuel Cordes consort of
Elizabeth Cordes and father
of Francis Cordes of Chachan
in the Parish of St John's Berk-
ley County
[and on a footstone along side of this, to a grave whose
headstone has gone is]
E. C. 1807

Ellinor Gaillard | who dep-
arted this life | on the first
of November | 1808 | aged Sixty four
years and five months

John Cordes Esq | who departed this
life on | the 3^{d} of September 1798 |
in the 50th year of his age

Catherine Cordes | who departed
this life on the | 5th day of August
1805 | aged 80 years and nine |
months

Hamilton Couturier Gourdin |
son of Theodore and Elizabeth |
Gourdin Died January 12th 1809 |
aged 6 years 19 days

William Cordes | who de-
parted this life | on the 11th day of
June 1818 | aged 34 years & 10 months

Philip Gendron Prioleau M. D.
an eminent physician and courteous
Gentleman.
upright in heart elevated in Sentiment
Just in conduct
Born 9th July 1776
Died 12 June 1844
His widow in tribute to that affection
which bound them to each other
under the Joys and Griefs of forty years
erects this monument of his worth
and also &c
Mrs Catherine Prioleau
daughter of John Cordes of
St Stephens Parish and
Widow of Dr Philip Gendron
Prioleau—She died on the
8th day of September 1849
in the 71st year of her age

John Gaillard
departed this life the
11th March 1807
aged 37 years and
5 months

John Gaillard
who departed this life
on the 16th of Septr 1835
in the forty second year
of his age

Mrs Harriet Gaillard
who died December 14th 1841
aged 66 yrs 9 mos and 6 ds.

Peter Gaillard Jr son of
Theodore & Ellinor Gaillard
born 2nd Octr 1782
died 4th Septr 1815
aged nearly 33 years

Edwin Gaillard M. D.
who died at his residence
in Pineville
on the 11th of October 1834
aged thirty eight years
and seven months.

Mrs Susan Doughty Mazyck
consort of Henry B. Mazyck Esq
of this Parish—She died at
Cordesville on the 21st of August 1832
aged 26 years.

Philip Porcher Broughton Esq
who died on the 19th day of
May 1822 aged 37 years
and 14 days
and
on the North side of this
marble are interred the
remains of his son
Philip Alexander

an interesting and endearing
child October 29, 1820
aged 2 years 10 months
and 25 days
This humble tablet is
inscribed as a token of
affection and regard by the
bereaved Widow and Mother
Mary Broughton

Our Mother Mary
Broughton Widow of
Philip P. Broughton
Died February 8th 1855
Aged 67 years 2 months
and 10 days

To our dear Sister
Marien C. Broughton
Born May 2d 1812
Died January 26 1863

To our Mother
Elizabeth Broughton
relict of Thomas Broughton

To our father Thomas Broughton
Born Feby 1784
Died Jany 1829

Peter Broughton
Who departed this life
16 Jany 1832
in the 57th year of his age.

John R. Dawson
Son of Laurence E. and Mary
W. Dawson
Born 18th February 1835
Died 27 August 1836

This slab markes the spot where
lie the remains of Col Morton
A. Waring who died at Buck
Hall in the Parish of St Stephens
on the morning of April 9th 1863
in the 80th year of his age
[and alongside of the foregoing]
Mrs Rebecca Waring
relict of the late Col Morton
A. Waring who died near
Florence S. C. on the 29th
day of April 1871 in the
86th year of her age

The Revd John
Jacob Tschudy
Born 7th June 1778
Died 17 Septr 1834

Mrs Margaret Tschudy
wife of Mr. John Tschudy
who died the 27th of March
1819 aged 33 years 5
months & 5 days
I have been a stranger
in a strange land
Leod: 2-22

Mrs Barbary Tschudy
Mother of the Rector of
the Parish, who died
the 18th of July 1819
aged 66 years & 2 months

George Calder
A native of Scotland who
died Oct 6th 1851
aged 48 years

In a separate enclosure (evidently a family reservation) in the churchyard, are stones to the following:

John White of Charleston Died 7th June 1838
in the 74th year of his age

Sims E. White son of Sims and Anna E. White
Born Oct 10th 1844 Died Sept 20th 1881

Sims White who died on the 12th August 1855
in the 60th year of his age

Mrs Anna E. White Relict of Sims White she died on
the 19th of June 1862 in the 58th year of her age

Kate Porcher eldest daughter of John S. and Catherine
White, born 25th August 1847 Died 23 Septr 1851

Lizzie Porcher Twin daughter of John S and Catherine G.
White, drowned in the Surf on Sullivans Island
on the 17th Aug: 1861, aged 11 years & 7 Months

John S. White Esq of Gippy only son of Sims
and Jane Parcell White born April 8th 1820
and died November 17th 1861

Catherine G. White wife of John S. White and daughter
of Thomas Porcher Born Feb: 28, 1824 Died
April 8, 1882

P. Gaillard Fitzsimons who departed this life Aug 18
1884 Aged 54 years 9 months 20 days.

Sims Walter White born Oct: 4th 1863 died Aug 26 1886

Isaac DuBose White Son of Sims and Anna R. White
Died October 12, 1871 Aged 39 years & 7 months